

Appln. No. 09/067,180
Amendment dated June 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 22, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 8, and 10 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A method for responding to access to a service provider site for providing contents information via a communication network in which the service provider site transmits, when an access request is made on a screen of an affiliation site from a requesting terminal of the affiliation site affiliated with the service provider site, contents information of the service provider site to the requesting terminal, the method comprising the steps of:

storing user verification [[data]] information and an identifier of the affiliation site, which is affiliated with the service provider site, both in the affiliation site and in the service provider site;

transmitting an access request from the affiliation site to the service provider site with the identifier of the affiliation

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15 site when the affiliation site receives an access request from
the requesting terminal;

determining, by the service provider site, whether the
access request is made via the affiliation site based on whether
the access request includes the identifier of the affiliation

20 site;

changing, by the service provider site, a part of the
contents information to be transmitted to the requesting terminal
to predetermined contents information corresponding to the
affiliation site when the access request is made via the

25 affiliation site;

transmitting, by the service provider site, the contents
information including the predetermined contents information to
the requesting terminal and waiting for a user verification
request from the requesting terminal before starting service

30 provision; and

storing, by the service provider site, user information of
the requesting terminal relating to the service provision into a
session control table relating to the affiliation site.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

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Claim 3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

accumulating a service usage time of the service provider site when the access request is made via the affiliation site;

5 and

determining a charge based on the accumulated service usage time every predetermined period of time and conducting a charging procedure to an enterprise of the affiliation site.

Claim 5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended). A service information providing method in which a service provider site provides via a communication network to a user terminal of an affiliation site affiliated with the service provider site, a service item

5 corresponding to an access request from the user terminal on a screen of the affiliation site, the access request including an identifier of the affiliation site, the method comprising the steps of:

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storing an identifier of the affiliation site affiliated
10 with the service provider site both in the service provider site
and in the affiliation site;

providing, by the service provider site, to the user
terminal [[a]] predetermined ~~content~~ contents information
corresponding to the service item in response to the access
15 request on a screen of the affiliation site;

receiving, by the service provider site, response
information relating to the provided ~~content~~ contents information
from the user terminal via the communication network and
determining whether the access request is transmitted from the
20 affiliation site based on whether the access request includes the
identifier of the affiliation site when a predetermined
processing is to be performed with regard to the response
information; and

performing, by the service provider site, the predetermined
25 processing based on a result of the determination.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented). The method according to
claim 6, wherein said predetermined processing is a processing
for preparing an electronic mail in response to the response
information and transmitting the mail via the communication

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5 network to another terminal which is different from the user
terminal, the electronic mail being transmitted to a terminal
belonging to the affiliation site when the response information
is transmitted from the affiliation site and to a terminal
belonging to the service provider site when the response
10 information is not transmitted from the affiliation site.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended). An article of manufacture
comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable
program code means embodied therein for responding to access to a
service provider site for providing contents information via a
5 communication network in which the service provider site
transmits, when an access request is made on a screen of an
affiliation site from a requesting terminal of an affiliation
site affiliated with the service provider site, contents
information of the service provider site to the requesting
10 terminal, the computer readable program code means comprising:

computer readable program code means for storing user
verification [[data]] information and an identifier of the
affiliation site, which is affiliated with the service provider
site, both in the affiliation site and in the service provider
15 site;

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computer readable program code means for transmitting an access request from the affiliation site to the service provider site with an identifier of the affiliation site when the affiliation site receives an access request from the requesting
20 terminal;

computer readable program code means for determining, by the service provider site, whether the access request is made via the affiliation site based on whether the access request includes the identifier of the affiliation site;

25 computer readable program code means for changing, the service provider site, a part of the contents information to be transmitted to the requesting terminal to predetermined contents information corresponding to the affiliation site when the access request is made via the affiliation site;

30 computer readable program code means for transmitting, by the service provider site, the contents including the predetermined contents information to the requesting terminal and waiting for a user verification request from the requesting terminal before starting service provision; and

35 computer readable program code means for storing, by the service provider site, user information of the requesting terminal relating to the service provision into a session control table relating to the affiliation site.

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Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended). An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for providing, by a service provider site to a user terminal of an affiliation site .

5 affiliated with the service provider site via a communication network, a service item corresponding to an access request from the user terminal on a screen of the affiliation site, the access request including an identifier of the affiliation site, the computer readable program code means comprising:

10 computer readable program code means for storing an identifier of the affiliation site affiliated with the service provider site both in the affiliation site and in the service provider site;

15 computer readable program code means for providing, by the service provider site, to the user terminal predetermined ~~content~~ contents information corresponding to a service item designated by the user terminal;

20 computer readable program code means for receiving, by the service provider site, response information relating to the provided ~~content~~ contents information from the user terminal via

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the communication network and determining whether the access request is transmitted from the affiliation site based on whether the access request includes the identifier of the affiliation site when a predetermined processing is to be performed with
25 regard to the response information; and

computer readable program code means for performing, by the service provider site, the predetermined processing based on a result of the determination.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented). A method of providing a home page of a service provider site and a home page of an affiliation site affiliated with the service provider via a communication network, when an access request is made on a screen
5 of the affiliation site from a requesting terminal of the affiliation site affiliated with the service provider site, the method comprising:

storing an identifier of the affiliation site affiliated with the service provider site both in the affiliation site and
10 in the service provider site;

receiving, by the affiliation site, a request for the home page of the service provider from a user of the affiliation site;

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transferring, by the affiliation site, the request for the
home page of the service provider to the service provider site
15 with an identifier of the affiliation site;

determining, by the service provider site, whether the user
is a member of the affiliation site based on whether the request
includes the identifier of the affiliation site; and

transmitting the home page of the service provider to the
20 user by the service provider site when the user is a member of
the affiliation site.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented). The method according to
claim 11, wherein the service provider site receives the request
with an identifier indicating that the user is a member of the
affiliation site and determines whether the user is a member of
5 the affiliation site based on the identifier.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented). The method according to
claim 12, wherein the service provider site modifies the home
page of the service provider site based on the identifier of the
affiliation site when it is determined that the user is a member
5 of the affiliation site.

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Claim 14 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 12, wherein the service provider site updates charging information for the user and charges the affiliation site when it is determined that the user is a member of the affiliation site.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

Claims 16 (Cancelled).